

# **DISCLAIMER**

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**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, ex rel.**

**STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION**

**CASE NO. PUC000020**

**Ex Parte: In re: Petition for  
Approval of NPA Relief Plan  
For the 757 area code**

## **HEARING EXAMINER'S RULING**

**June 6, 2000**

On January 24, 2000, the North American Numbering Plan Administrator ("NANPA"), on behalf of the Virginia telecommunications industry ("Industry"), filed a Petition requesting that the Commission order a plan of relief for the 757 Numbering Plan Area ("NPA") for implementation by the first quarter of 2002. On February 17, 2000, the NANPA conducted a meeting of the Virginia telecommunications industry and discussed alternatives with the objective of reaching an industry-wide consensus for planning NANPA relief efforts and reaching a single relief plan. On March 30, 2000, the NANPA, by counsel, filed notice of the Industry's consensus to recommend implementation of an all-services distributed overlay relief plan for the 757 NPA beginning September 15, 2000.

On April 12, 2000, the Commission entered an Order Assuming Jurisdiction and Assigning Hearing Examiner. Therein, the Commission: (i) docketed the matter, (ii) assigned a Hearing Examiner, (iii) directed the Examiner to schedule hearings to receive public comments within the area served by the 757 area code, and (iv) ordered the Examiner to direct the Commission's Division of Communications to publish newspaper notice about the time and place of the public hearings and the address and docket number to which written comments may be sent.

Upon consideration of the Petition and the Commission's order of April 12, 2000, I find that local hearings should be scheduled to receive public comments in this investigation. Further, a procedural schedule should be established for the provision of public notice, the filing of written comments, and receiving evidence. Accordingly,

### **IT IS DIRECTED THAT:**

(1) Local hearings to receive public comments on a plan of relief for the 757 NPA are hereby scheduled for 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on July 24, 2000, in the Chesapeake City Council Chambers, City Hall Building, 306 Cedar Road, Chesapeake, VA 23322; 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on July 25, 2000, in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, Accomack County Administration Building, 23296 Courthouse Avenue, Accomack, VA; 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on July 27, 2000, in the Board of Supervisors Room,

Southampton County Office Center, 26022 Administration Center Dr., Courtland, VA 23837; and 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on July 31, 2000, in the Williamsburg City Council Chambers, Stryker Building, 412 Boundary St., Williamsburg, VA 23185;

(2) A public hearing also shall be held on September 13, 2000, commencing at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission's Second Floor Courtroom in Richmond for the purpose of receiving any additional public comments, evidence, and oral arguments concerning a plan of relief for the 757 NPA;

(3) Any person desiring to comment in writing, or prefile any written direct testimony or exhibits on a plan of relief for the 757 NPA may do so by directing such comments on or before August 15, 2000, to Joel H. Peck, Clerk, Virginia State Corporation Commission, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, VA 23218, and refer to Case No. PUC000020.

(4) On or before July 7, 2000, the Commission's Division of Communications shall publish once a week for two consecutive weeks the following notice as classified advertising with a display border in newspapers of general circulation within the existing 757 area code:

**VIRGINIA STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION NOTICE  
OF PUBLIC HEARING AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT  
ON THE APPROPRIATE MANNER TO IMPLEMENT A NEW  
AREA CODE IN THE EXISTING 757 AREA CODE  
CASE NO. PUC000020**

The Virginia State Corporation Commission ("SCC") is inviting comments from telephone customers affected by calling into or out of the existing 757 area code. Pursuant to the provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C. § 251(e)(1), and the authority delegated by the Federal Communications Commission, the SCC was granted the authority to determine the best method of assigning a new area code to those geographic areas where the available telephone numbers are being depleted.

The area in Virginia currently served by area code 757 is estimated to run out of telephone numbers during the first quarter of 2002. The North American Numbering Plan Administrator has studied the implementation of a new area code in this area and has proposed that the Commission overlay a new area code on top of the existing 757 area code. Alternatives, however, include a concentrated growth overlay in which only the high growth area in and around Norfolk would receive an area code overlay, but all current customers would retain 757. Two other alternatives presented are geographic splits in which one area would receive a new area code and one would retain 757. Those who may be affected by the proposed area code change are invited to submit written comments on which option they favor to

Joel H. Peck, Clerk of the Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218. Any such comments filed with the SCC must refer to Case No. PUC000020 and must be filed no later than August 15, 2000.

Local hearings to receive public comments on the assignment of a new area code in the 757 area have also been scheduled at the following locations and times:

July 24, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.  
Chesapeake City Council Chambers  
City Hall Building  
306 Cedar Road  
Chesapeake, VA 23322

July 25, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.  
Board of Supervisors Chambers  
Accomack County Administration Building  
23296 Courthouse Avenue  
Accomack, VA

July 27, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.  
Board of Supervisors Room  
Southampton County Office Center  
26022 Administration Center Dr.  
Courtland, VA 23837

July 31, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.  
Williamsburg City Council Chambers  
Stryker Building  
412 Boundary St.  
Williamsburg, VA 23185

Persons wishing to speak at the hearings need only attend one of the hearings and provide their name and address to the Commission's bailiff.

Another public hearing on the assignment of a new area code in the 757 area is scheduled for September 13, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission's second floor courtroom, located in the Tyler Building at 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia. Persons desiring to make a statement at the hearing need only appear in the Commission's second floor courtroom at 9:45 a.m. on the day of the hearing and identify themselves as public witnesses to the Commission's bailiff.

#### **VIRGINIA STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION**

(5) On or before July 7, 2000, the Commission's Division of Communications shall provide proof of public notice by newspaper publication in the manner described herein; and

(6) On or before September 1, 2000, the Commission's Division of Communications may file a report and recommendation regarding a plan of relief for the 757 NPA.

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Deborah V. Ellenberg  
Chief Hearing Examiner